

CLAFLIN COLLEGE, LEE LIBRARY  
College Avenue  
Orangeburg  
Orangeburg County  
South Carolina

HABS No. SC-607

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1A-

PHOTOGRAPHS AND  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

Clafflin College, Lee Library

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Location: On a portion of the Claflin College campus in the Claflin College Historic District, Orangeburg, Orangeburg County, South Carolina

Date of Construction: 1898

Architect: Wilson Wilson Cooke (superintendent of vocational training at Claflin, who later became the first Black person to serve as a senior architectural designer in the U. S. Supervising Architect's office).

Present Use: Campus offices

Significance: The Lee Library has an unusual picturesque plan and classical details in its brickwork. It is a fine example of the inventive adaptations of classical precedents from the late Victorian period. It was built by Mechanical Arts students at Claflin College, a Black institution founded by northern Methodists during Reconstruction.

Made of brick and T-shaped in plan, Lee Library has a projecting polygonal bay on the left and features a decorative exterior chimney. An arcaded porch shelters the facade entrance which is to the right of the polygonal bay. The entrance has a flat arch with egg and dart molding and a banderol. Windows on the facade have decorative brick surrounds with flat arches and banderol above. Beneath the windows is a row of rat-tooth course. Sawn modillions are set beneath the eaves

Lee Library was listed in the National Register of Historic Places on September 20, 1985, as part of Claflin College Historic District.

Compiler: E. Thomas Sims  
South Carolina Department of Archives and History  
May 2, 1988

ADDENDUM TO  
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